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23 May 1950

MEMORANDUM FOR: Acting Executive  
Director

SUBJECT: Names for Committees

REFERENCE: "Board of Directors" and "Chain of Command"  
theories of the military members of the  
Intelligence Advisory Committee, which have  
permeated down through the Departmental  
Intelligence agencies.

1. There are internal CIA committees on numerous subjects within, between, and among CIA offices, and interdepartmental committees chaired by State, Commerce, etc., etc., on which CIA is represented. There are also interdepartmental committees chaired by CIA.

2. This memo concerns the committees chaired by CIA on which other Departments and Agencies have members. Usually these members come from some or all of the agencies represented on the Intelligence Advisory Committee and the members are designated by their Chiefs to assist the DCI in fulfilling his coordinating responsibilities. They do, or at least should, report to or submit recommendations to the DCI through the CIA Chairman.

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4. We think that there should be external CIA committees as well as internal ones and that the external ones might be called "CIA Interdepartmental Committee on ———" since they are composed of members from outside agencies under the chairmanship of CIA or a "——— Advisory Committee". We also think they should not be called "Joint" to avoid confusion with the various committees established by the Joint Chiefs of Staff which usually have that word in their titles.

5. The Working Committees under the Scientific Intelligence Committee, however, do not wish to give up the use of the word

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"Joint" unless "a specific directive on the subject is received from higher authority".

6. We recommend, therefore, that:

a. the word "Advisory" or "CIA Interdepartmental" be used in all our interdepartmental committees (chaired by CIA), and the word "Joint" or just "Interdepartmental" should not be used. The subcommittees (as well as others) should be named for the subjects they consider or if necessary or desirable by a code word. "Advisory" or "CIA Interdepartmental" could also be used in the names of the subcommittees with external membership — if they want longer titles;

b. an Administrative Instruction go out to this effect and, if the SIC working committees still wish to use the word "Joint", that we explain this to the members of the Intelligence Advisory Committee if necessary so that they can instruct their representatives accordingly.

PRESCOTT CHILDS, Chief  
Coordination, Operations  
and Policy Staff

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